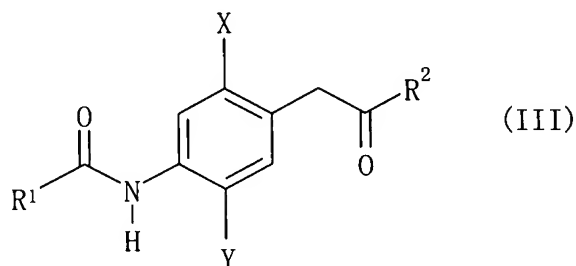


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

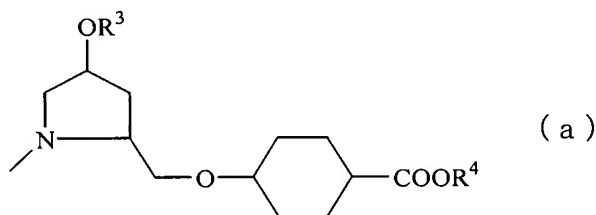
1. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a compound represented by formula (III):

[F4]



(wherein R¹ represents an aryl group which may be substituted, or a heteroaryl group which may be substituted; R² represents a linear or branched lower alkoxy group which may be substituted, an aralkyloxy group which may be substituted, a phenoxy group, or a group represented by formula (a):

[F3]



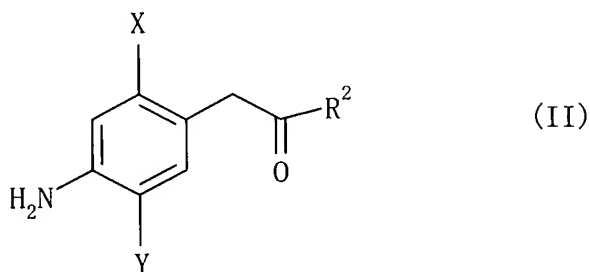
(wherein R³ represents a linear or branched lower alkyl group which may be substituted; and R⁴ represents a linear or branched lower alkyl group which may be substituted, or an aralkyl group which may be substituted); X represents a hydrogen atom or a halogen atom; and Y represents a halogen atom or a lower alkoxy group), ~~characterized by~~ comprising reacting a compound represented by formula (I):

[F1]



(wherein R^1 has the same meaning as defined above) with a chlorinating agent and a compound represented by formula (II):

[F2]



(wherein R^2 has the same meaning as defined above) or a salt thereof under acidic conditions without addition of a base.

2. (Original) The process according to claim 1, wherein R^1 represents a 1-methylindolyl group.

3. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the chlorinating agent is oxalyl chloride or thionyl chloride.

4. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein R^2 represents a linear or branched lower alkoxy group.

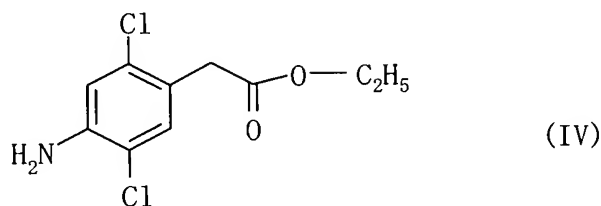
5. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein R^2 represents a group represented by formula (a) wherein R^3 represents a methyl group, and R^4 represents a linear or branched lower alkyl group.

6. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~, wherein X represents a chlorine atom or fluorine atom.

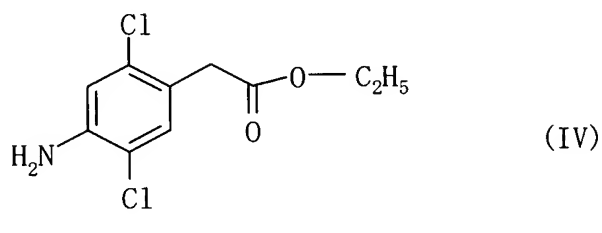
7. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~, wherein X represents a chlorine atom, Y represents a chlorine atom, and R^1 represents a 1-methylindolyl group.

8. (Withdrawn; Currently Amended) A hydrochloric acid salt of a compound represented by formula (IV)-IV

[F5]

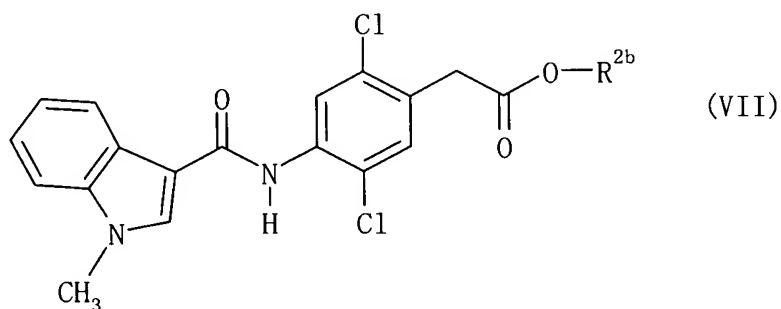


9. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~, wherein the compound represented by formula (II) or a salt thereof is a hydrochloric acid salt ~~as recited in claim 8~~ represented by formula IV



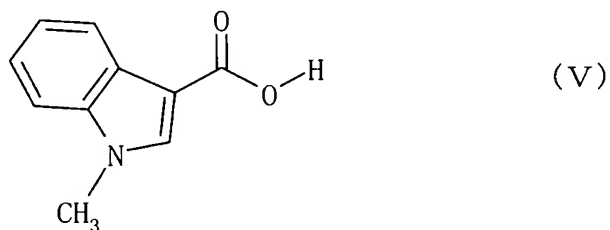
10. (Withdrawn; Currently Amended) A process for producing a compound represented by formula (VII):

[F8]



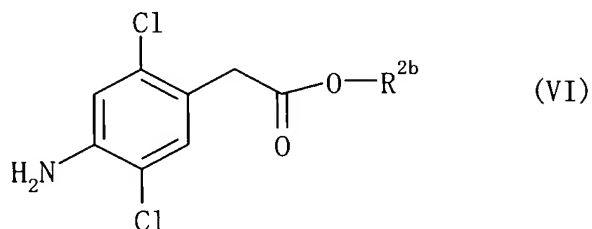
(wherein R^{2b} represents a linear or branched lower alkyl group which may be substituted, an aralkyl group which may be substituted, or a phenyl group), characterized by comprising reacting a compound represented by formula (V):

[F6]



with a chlorinating agent and a compound represented by formula (VI):

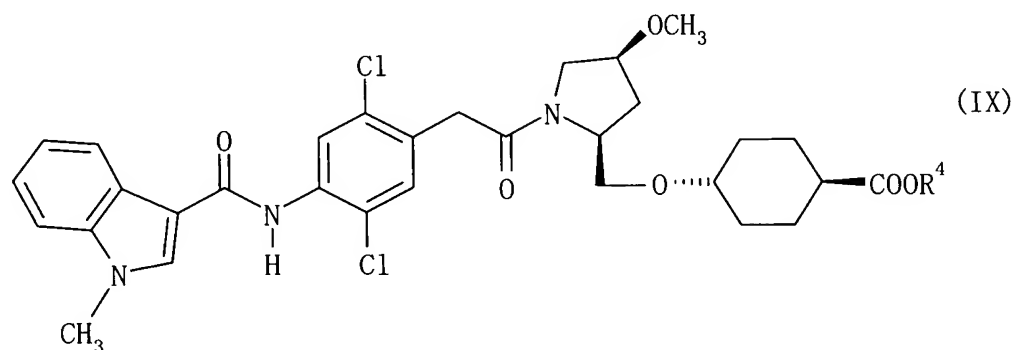
[F7]



(wherein R^{2b} has the same meaning as defined above) or a salt thereof under acidic conditions without addition of a base.

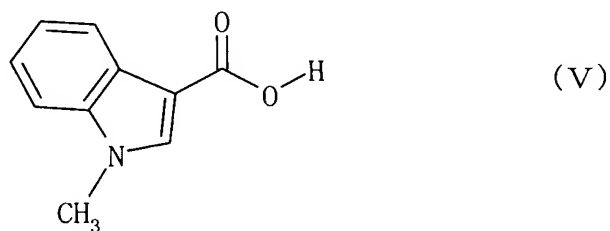
11. (Withdrawn; Currently Amended) A process for producing a compound represented by formula (IX):

[F11]



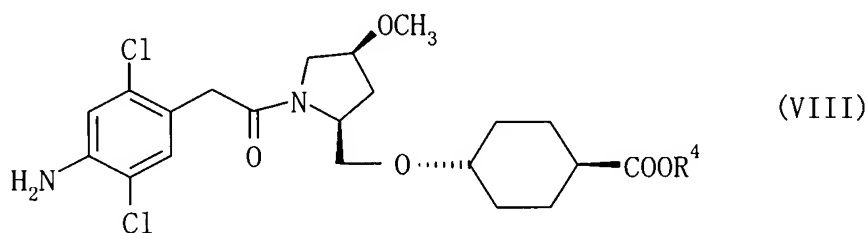
(wherein R⁴ represents a linear or branched lower alkyl group which may be substituted, or an aralkyl group which may be substituted), ~~characterized by~~ comprising reacting a compound represented by formula (V):

[F9]



with a chlorinating agent and a compound represented by formula (VIII):

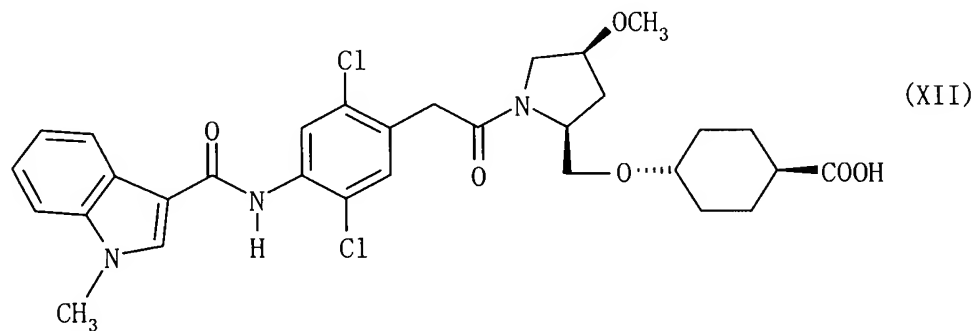
[F10]



(wherein R⁴ has the same meaning as defined above) or a salt thereof under acidic conditions without addition of a base.

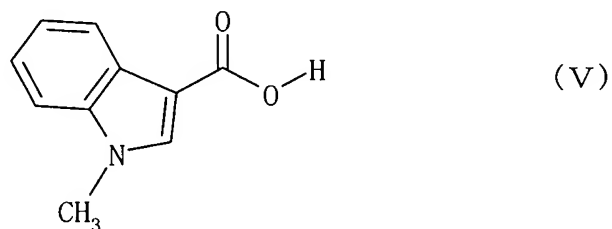
12. (Withdrawn; Currently Amended) A process for producing a compound represented by formula (XII):

[F16]



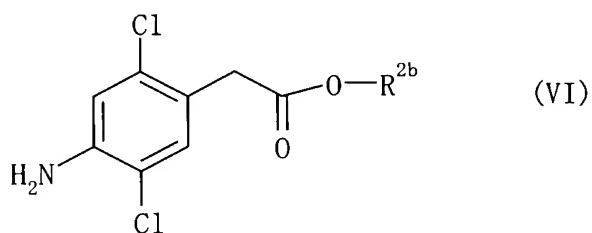
or a salt thereof, or a hydrate of the compound or the salt, ~~characterized by~~ comprising reacting a compound represented by formula (V):

[F12]



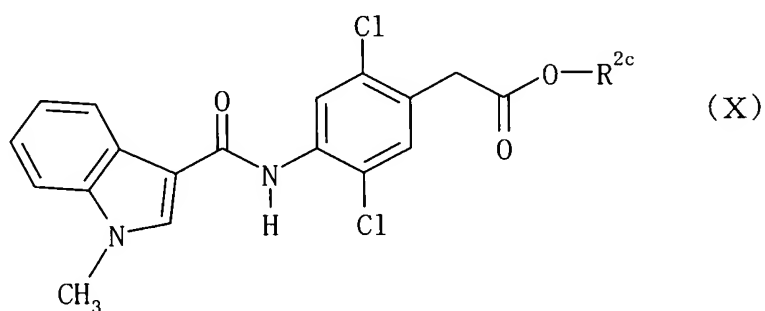
with a chlorinating agent and a compound represented by formula (VI):

{F13}



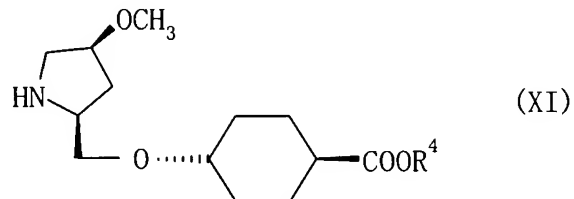
(wherein R^{2b} represents a linear or branched lower alkyl group which may be substituted, or an aralkyl group which may be substituted, or a phenyl group) or a salt thereof under acidic conditions without addition of a base; optionally hydrolyzing the product to thereby yield a compound represented by formula (X):

{F14}



(wherein R^{2c} represents a hydrogen atom, a linear or branched lower alkyl group which may be substituted, an aralkyl group which may be substituted, or a phenyl group); reacting the compound represented by formula (X) with a compound represented by formula (XI):

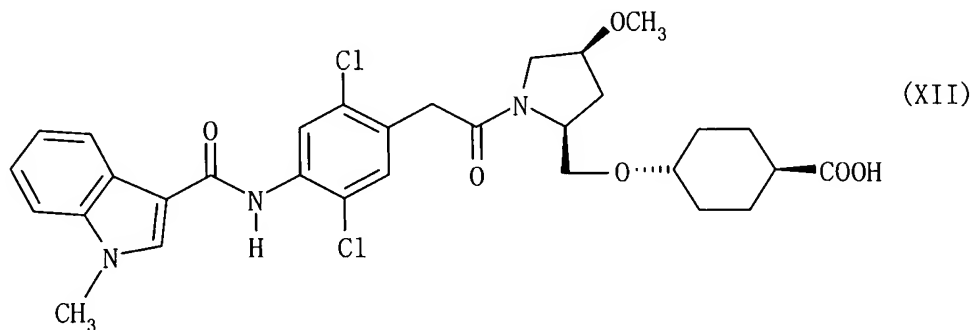
{F15}



(wherein R⁴ represents a linear or branched lower alkyl group which may be substituted, or an aralkyl group which may be substituted); and hydrolyzing the product.

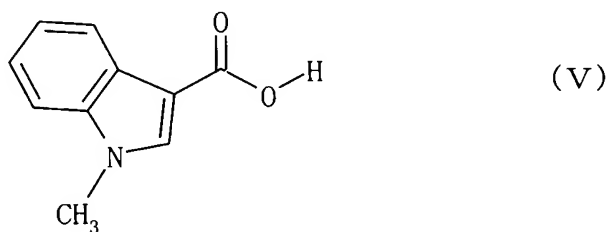
13. (Withdrawn; Currently Amended) A process for producing a compound represented by formula (XII):

[F19]



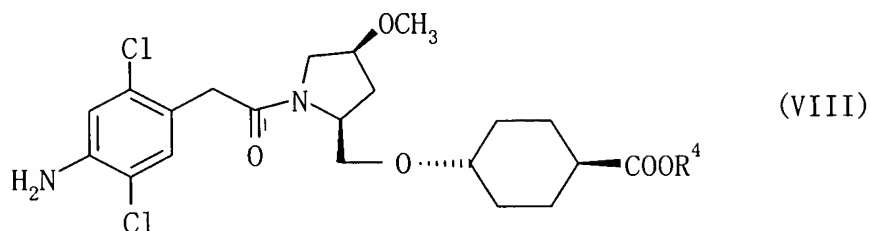
or a salt thereof, or a hydrate of the compound or the salt, ~~characterized by comprising~~ reacting a compound represented by formula (V):

[F17]



with a chlorinating agent and a compound represented by formula (VIII):

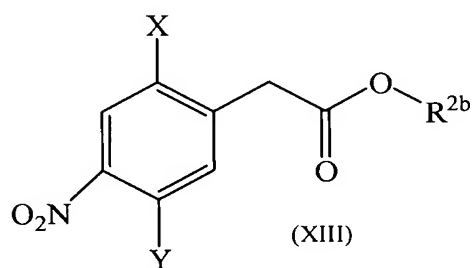
[F18]



(wherein R⁴ represents a linear or branched lower alkyl group which may be substituted, or an aralkyl group which may be substituted) or a salt thereof under acidic conditions without addition of a base; and hydrolyzing the product.

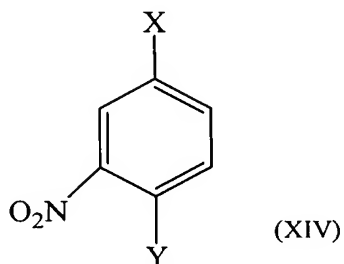
14. (Withdrawn; Currently Amended) A process for producing a compound represented by formula (XIII):

[F22]



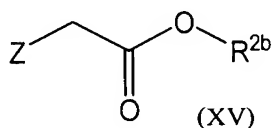
(wherein X represents a hydrogen atom or a halogen atom; Y represents a halogen atom or a lower alkoxy group; and R^{2b} represents a linear or branched lower alkyl group which may be substituted, or an aralkyl group which may be substituted, or a phenyl group),
~~characterized by~~ comprising reacting a compound represented by formula (XIV):

[F20]



(wherein X and Y have the same meanings as defined above) with a compound represented by formula (XV):

{F21}



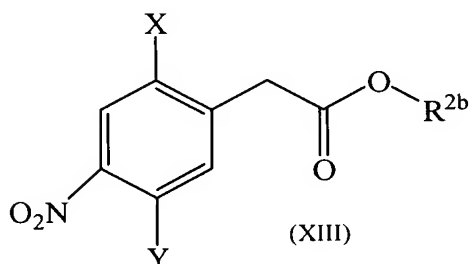
(wherein Z represents a halogen atom, a phenylthio group, an alkoxy group, or an amino group; and R^{2b} has the same meaning as defined above) in a solvent in the presence of a base.

15. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 14, wherein each of X and Y in formulas (XIII) and (XIV) represents a chlorine atom.

16. (Withdrawn) The process according to claim 15, wherein R^{2b} in formulas (XIII) and (XV) represents a tert-butyl group.

17. (Withdrawn; Currently Amended) A compound represented by formula (XIII):

{F23}

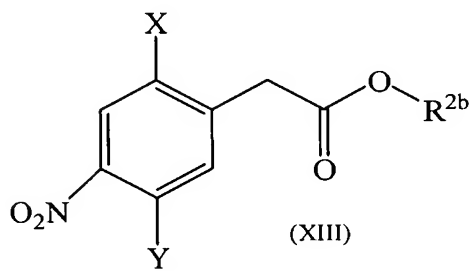


(wherein X represents a hydrogen atom or a halogen atom; Y represents a halogen atom or a lower alkoxy group; and R^{2b} represents a linear or branched lower alkyl group which may be substituted, an aralkyl group which may be substituted, or a phenyl group), a salt thereof, or a solvate of the compound or the salt.

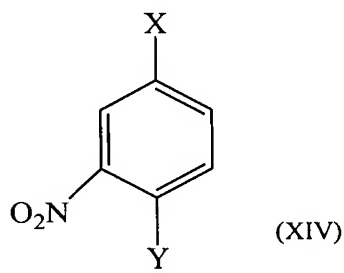
18. (Withdrawn) The compound according to claim 17, a salt thereof, or a solvate of the compound or the salt, wherein each of X and Y in formula (XIII) represents a chlorine atom.

19. (Withdrawn) The compound according to claim 18, a salt thereof, or a solvate of the compound or the salt, wherein R^{2b} in formula (XIII) represents a tert-butyl group.

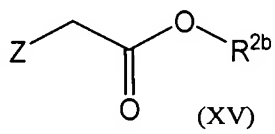
20. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 7,~~ wherein the compound represented by formula (II) is a compound produced through reduction of the nitro group of the compound represented by formula (XIII) ~~produced through the process according to claim 14,~~ a salt thereof, or the solvate of the compound or the salt, wherein said compound represented by formula (XIII):



(wherein X represents a hydrogen atom or a halogen atom; Y represents a halogen atom or a lower alkoxy group; and R^{2b} represents a linear or branched lower alkyl group which may be substituted, or an aralkyl group which may be substituted, or a phenyl group), is produced by a process comprising reacting a compound represented by formula (XIV):



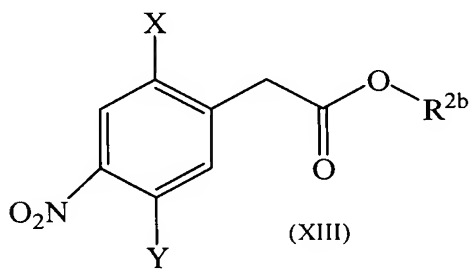
(wherein X and Y have the same meanings as defined above) with a compound represented by formula (XV):



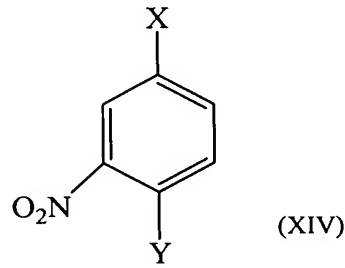
(wherein Z represents a halogen atom, a phenylthio group, an alkoxy group, or an amino group; and R^{2b} has the same meaning as defined above) in a solvent in the presence of a base.

21. (Withdrawn; Currently Amended) The process according to claim 10 or 12, wherein the compound represented by formula (VI) is a compound produced through reduction of the nitro group of the compound represented by formula (XIII) ~~produced through~~

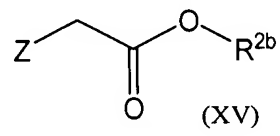
~~the process according to claim 15 or 16~~, a salt thereof, or the solvate of the compound or the salt, wherein said compound represented by formula (XIII):



(wherein X and Y is a chlorine atom; and R^{2b} represents a linear or branched lower alkyl group which may be substituted, or an aralkyl group which may be substituted, or a phenyl group), is produced by a process comprising reacting a compound represented by formula (XIV):



(wherein X and Y have the same meanings as defined above) with a compound represented by formula (XV):



(wherein Z represents a halogen atom, a phenylthio group, an alkoxy group, or an amino group; and R^{2b} has the same meaning as defined above) in a solvent in the presence of a base.

22. (New) The process according to claim 21, wherein R^{2b} in formulas (XIII) and (XV) represents a tert-butyl group.

23. (New) The process according to claim 2, wherein the chlorinating agent is oxalyl chloride or thionyl chloride.

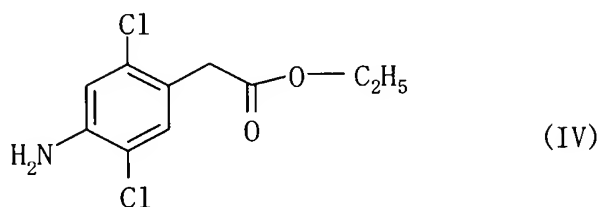
24. (New) The process according to claim 2, wherein R^2 represents a linear or branched lower alkoxy group.

25. (New) The process according to claim 2, wherein R^2 represents a group represented by formula (a) wherein R^3 represents a methyl group, and R^4 represents a linear or branched lower alkyl group.

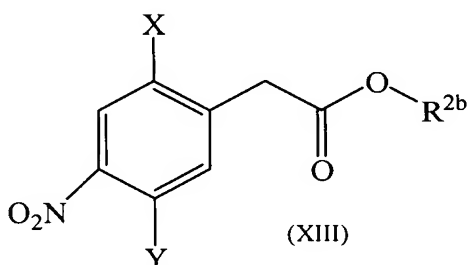
26. (New) The process according to claim 2, wherein X represents a chlorine atom or fluorine atom.

27. (New) The process according to claim 2, wherein X represents a chlorine atom, Y represents a chlorine atom, and R^1 represents a 1-methylindolyl group.

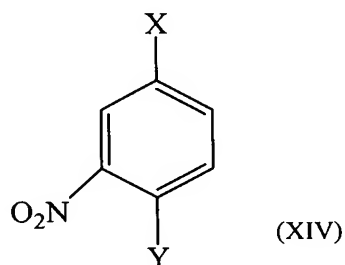
28. (New) The process according to claim 2, wherein the compound represented by formula (II) or a salt thereof is a hydrochloric acid salt represented by formula IV



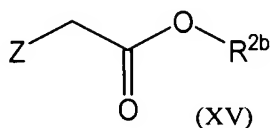
29. (New) The process according to claim 2, wherein the compound represented by formula (II) is a compound produced through reduction of the nitro group of the compound represented by formula (XIII), a salt thereof, or the solvate of the compound or the salt, wherein said compound represented by formula (XIII):



(wherein X represents a hydrogen atom or a halogen atom; Y represents a halogen atom or a lower alkoxy group; and R^{2b} represents a linear or branched lower alkyl group which may be substituted, or an aralkyl group which may be substituted, or a phenyl group), is produced by a process comprising reacting a compound represented by formula (XIV):



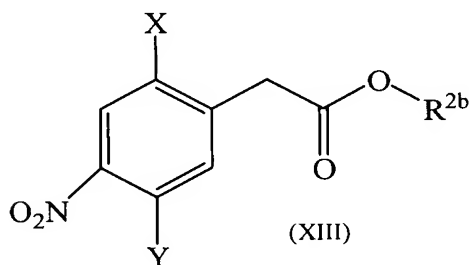
(wherein X and Y have the same meanings as defined above) with a compound represented by formula (XV):



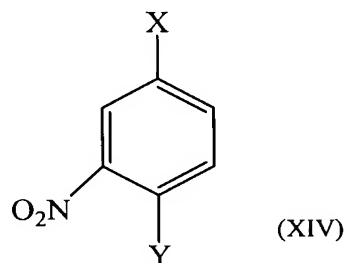
(wherein Z represents a halogen atom, a phenylthio group, an alkoxy group, or an amino group; and R^{2b} has the same meaning as defined above) in a solvent in the presence of a base.

30. (Currently Amended) The process according to claim 12, wherein the compound represented by formula (VI) is a compound produced through reduction of the nitro group of the compound represented by formula (XIII), a salt thereof, or the solvate of the compound or the salt, wherein said compound represented by formula (XIII):

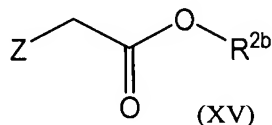
wherein said compound represented by formula (XIII):



(wherein X and Y is a chlorine atom; and R^{2b} represents a linear or branched lower alkyl group which may be substituted, or an aralkyl group which may be substituted, or a phenyl group), is produced by a process comprising reacting a compound represented by formula (XIV):



(wherein X and Y have the same meanings as defined above) with a compound represented by formula (XV):



(wherein Z represents a halogen atom, a phenylthio group, an alkoxy group, or an amino group; and R^{2b} has the same meaning as defined above) in a solvent in the presence of a base.

31. (New) The process according to claim 30, wherein R^{2b} in formulas (XIII) and (XV) represents a tert-butyl group.